

Psychology: the scientific study of behavior and mental processes

What is the scope of contemporary psychology?

What roles did Wundt and James play in

establishing psychology?

What were the early schools of thought and approaches in psychology, and how did their views differ?

### Goals of Psychological Science

Describe behavior

Explain behavior

Predict behavior

Control or influence behavior

### Introduction: The Origins of Psychology

- Fundamental Issues
  - How should psychology be defined?
  - What is the proper subject matter of psychology?
  - Which areas of human experience should be studied?
  - What methods should be used to investigate psychological issues?
  - Should psychology include the study of nonhuman animal behavior?
  - Should psychological findings be used to change or enhance human behavior?

# Psychology's Origin Story

- Started with Philosophers
- Major Schools of Thought
  - Structuralism: emphasized that complex conscious experiences broken down into structures
  - Functionalism: emphasized function of behavior and mental experiences
  - Psychoanalysis: emphasized the role of unconscious factors in personality and behavior
  - Behaviorism: emphasized observable behaviors
  - Humanistic: emphasized each person's unique potential for psychological growth

# Let's Play a Game

MONTH

- I will ask a question about the major contributors to the field of psychology
- Type in the chat what the answer is
- The first person who answers correctly wins!
- We will do several of these

Who was a philosopher who proposed interactive dualism, where the mind and body are separate entities?

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### Influence of Philosophy

- René Descartes (1596–1650)—Interactive dualism
  - Mind and body are separate entities that interact to produce sensations, emotions, and other conscious experiences
- Aristotle
  - Impact of physiology on emergence of psychology
  - Scientific discoveries demonstrated that the scientific method could be applied to behavior and mental processes
- Nature Nurture Issue
  - Today, focus on interaction of environment and genetics

### Founders of Psychology

### Wilhelm Wundt (1832–1920) Founder of Psychology

 1874—Landmark text Principles of Physiological Psychology

 1879—First psychology lab at the University of Leipzig



# Founders of Psychology

First Major Psychological Schools

 Edward Titchener (student of Wundt) developed approach called structuralism

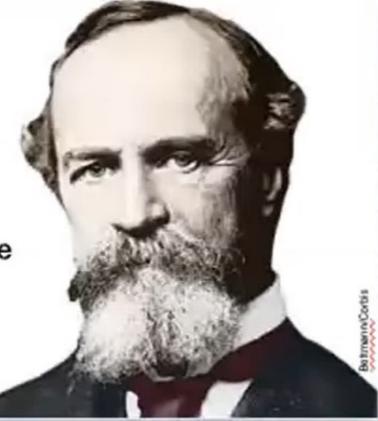
> focused on basic sensory and perceptual processes

 criticized for relying on introspection



### Founders of Psychology

- First Major Psychological Schools:
  - William James and **Functionalism** 
    - opposed Wundt and Titchener's approach
    - Influenced by Darwin
    - Stressed the importance of how behavior functions to allow people and animals to adapt to their environments



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### James' Students

- G. Stanley Hall (1844-1924)
  - First psychological lab in the U.S. at John Hopkins; founded the APA
- Mary Whiton Calkins (1863-1930)
  - First woman to EARN a PhD in psychology
  - In 1905, Calkins was elected president of the APA—the first woman to hold that position





- Margaret Floy Washburn (1871-1939)
  - Student of Edward Titchener
  - First American woman to EARN and RECEIVE an official Ph.D. in psychology



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